

We bailed out the airline industry, only to see all of these airline people getting laid off. This House has not done anything for the very least of these people. We are spiritual, I believe; but Members are going to have to help my belief.

#### OVERSIGHT NECESSARY OF CHARITABLE AND RELIEF EFFORTS

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I welcome the gentlewoman from Indiana with her comments to this extent: honorable people can disagree. Where I take exception is when patriotism is impugned and motives are attributed when there is honest disagreement. That is the key difference.

Now, to a sense of unity and a sense of action, let me call the attention of the House to a matter of concern that is neither Republican nor Democrat but totally American. That is the fate of the survivors and the dependents of the horrible attacks on September 11.

Mr. Speaker, various charitable agencies have come together saying they will help fund relief for the victims of the disaster. And yet there has been a disconnect between that promise and reality.

As a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, I have called upon the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) to take oversight interest in the status of these charities to make sure that we helped people who have suffered and in that way restore our sense of unity and legitimate oversight. These people need our help.

#### AIRLINE SAFETY MUST BE ADDRESSED

(Ms. KILPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, nearly 2 weeks ago the Senate passed a bill on airline safety. It is now time for the House to take up that bill, and we would urge the leadership of the House to bring that bill forward immediately. We took care of the airlines. We have not taken care of the industry: the riders, the American people, the people who work in the airports, the airports, the concessionaires.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we take care of security, that we have all bags checked as they go onto our planes, and we make sure that the screeners who screen us are conviction-free and are able to do the jobs that it will take to secure the safety of the American flying public. Bring the bill forward now. We must protect Americans' right to ride airplanes, and we must protect the airports and the people who work in them.

#### CONGRESS SHOULD SUPPORT TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support granting the President Trade Promotion Authority, or TPA.

Formerly known as Fast Track Authority, TPA has worked well in the past, giving our Presidents the flexibility and authority they need to negotiate the best deals for America. From our first free trade agreement with Israel, to the FTA with Canada, the NAFTA with our two North American trading partners, and the Uruguay Round of GATT world trade talks which created the WTO, Trade Promotion Authority has proven effective.

Trade Promotion Authority for the President does not mean no authority for Congress and the American people. Our trade negotiators have proven their commitment to developing consensus positions so that, once the negotiations are concluded, the trade agreements will win the approval of Congress and the American people.

Without Trade Promotion Authority, there can be no more Free Trade Agreements. Without free trade, America loses.

#### AMERICA NEEDS AIRLINE SECURITY BILL

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we need an airport security bill. This is not a partisan issue. I share completely the views of my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary that appropriates money.

Mr. Speaker, we know what happened a few years ago in Northern Virginia. A Pakistani by the name of Mir Aimal Kasi walked up to several people sitting in line to turn in to the CIA, and brutally murdered them. Reached in with an assault weapon and killed them. It took years, but we found him. His roommate was a baggage screener at Dulles Airport. 87 percent of these people hired by Argencbright, who does the baggage screening at National Airport and Dulles Airport, are not U.S. citizens.

How can we do a background check on someone who is not a U.S. citizen, and many are illegal aliens, and they are doing the passenger and baggage screening at our airports? It is not working. The airlines have looked for the bottom line, the cheapest people who will work for the least amount of money. We need to federalize and professionalize them.

#### AIRLINE STABILIZATION BOARD SHOULD NOT HAVE FINANCIAL STAKE IN AIRLINES

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago we passed the airline bailout bill. I voted against that bill for several reasons, one of which is right now an airline stabilization board is deciding which airlines win and which lose. That is not a good position for the Federal Government to be in.

The Federal Government as a regulator of the airlines should not be in a position to pick winners and losers in the economy. What complicates this issue is that the legislation authorized this board to take a financial stake in those airlines through warrants, stock options, or other equity instruments. That is a bad idea, and I would encourage that board not to do so. By taking a financial position in those airlines, that board will then have an interest in making sure that those airlines that they choose to win will succeed, and that those airlines they choose not to fund and give loan guarantees to to fail.

Mr. Speaker, as a regulator, the Federal Government should not be in that position. I would encourage that board not to take a financial position in airlines.

#### CONGRESS NEEDS TO REFOCUS ON SECURITY OF NATION

(Mr. RODRIGUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, Americans want Congress to strengthen homeland security and help workers after the terrorist attacks. They want us to look at our borders and make sure that they are secure and make sure we have sufficient vaccine and make sure that we are sure that we have the security that is needed.

But at the same time, Christmas came early yesterday. The leadership of the House decided to give a tax break to the corporations and the special interests of this country. At a time when we should be looking at what is occurring as far as the security of this country, they chose to send checks out.

Mr. Speaker, Ford Motors will receive a \$2.3 billion check. Chevron will get \$314 million. Exxon will get \$254 million. IBM will get \$1.4 billion. General Motors, they are going to get a check for \$832 million. Christmas came early.

The only ones that are benefiting from the atrocity of September 11 are the corporations. We need to refocus and concentrate on the security of this Nation. I ask the leadership of the House to reconsider their position.